

FIRE PROTECTION POLICY BOARD

**Regular Meeting
May 23, 2007
General Administration Building
Olympia, WA**

Board Members Present: T.J, Nedrow, Sharon Colby, Wayne Wienholz, Mark Kahley, Jim Broman and Rick Chaney, Dean Hosni, Bud Hover and Jennifer Gregerson

Board Members Absent: None

WSP Staff Present: Mike Matlick and Ellen

Guests Present: Chief Ted Hendershot

OPENING:

T.J. opened the meeting with introductions at approximately 9:10.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion: It was moved and seconded to approve the agenda, with the following additions:

Discussion on meeting with Thurston County Board of Commissioners
Request from the Forum re: Policy Statement
Discussion on development of 2-year Work Plan

Motion passes. Unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion: It was moved by Rick Chaney and seconded by Jim Broman to approve the minutes from the February 28, 2007– Regular Meeting

Motion passes. Unanimous

Motion: It was moved by Jim Broman and seconded by Mark Kahley to approve the minutes from the April 25, 2007– Work Session

Motion passes. Unanimous

REPORTS

State Fire Marshal's Office ~ Mike Matlick advised that the Fire Prevention Workgroup is moving forward with their efforts to have a draft plan to forward to the Policy Board for their review early this fall. Mike also advised that the Workgroup will be holding their next meeting on June 13 in Ellensburg.

Mike provided the following staffing update:

- ◆ The newly hired DSFM Outreach Liaison will start on June 1. This position will be responsible for the coordination of regional contracts, Bureau PIO activities, and will serve as the Bureau's point of contact with the Regional Councils.
- ◆ There are currently 3 candidates in process for the Chief Deputy State Fire Marshal position in the Basic Firefighter Training Program.
- ◆ Martin Fowler began as the Chief Deputy at The FTA on May 8th. This is the position that was previously known as the Chief of Instruction. Martin was the Training Director of Vashon Island, and was also a Contract Instructor at the FTA.
- ◆ There are currently two candidates being considered for the Assistant State Fire Marshal position managing the Preparedness Division.

Once all of the Bureau's positions have been filled, Mike will have staff prepare an organizational chart, with staff photos (if possible) for distribution to the Policy Board.

Mike further advised that he was pleased to announce that Dan Eikum was selected as a recipient for the Governor's Award for Leadership in Government. Dan was recognized for his leadership in managing the Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program, Hazardous Materials Training Program, Fire Service Mobilization Program and the development of the Agency's Pandemic Flu Preparedness Plan.

In response to Mark Kahley's question regarding having a SFMO staff member appointed to the PNWCG's Prevention Committee, Mike advised that it is his intention to have one of his staff appointed to participate on the PNWCG. Prior to selecting an appointee, he or Dan Eikum will continue to attend the meetings, as they are available.

State Fire Defense Committee ~ Chief Hendershot advised that Goal 3 and 4 of the Committee's Business Plan has been on hold, pending a decision relating to the issue of All Risk Mobilization. In discussion, it was agreed that there appears to be a consensus resolution to the All Risk Mobilization issues.

State Interoperability Executive Committee ~ Jim Broman advised that the Committee is moving forward with development and implementation plans for a statewide interoperable communication system, and that this will be an on-going budget issue for the State Legislature. A challenge is having compatible systems that are interoperable outside local jurisdictions. Jim also advised that Oregon and Washington are beginning efforts to align communication systems to promote interoperability between the states. Jim clarified that although the cost to implement an interoperable system is high, it is intended to be a phased implementation process. In discussion regarding the advantages of developing a briefing paper, Jim advised that the WSP is developing a communication plan that will include sound bites and other factual information

Fire Investigations ~ Fire Investigations ~ Jim Broman provided an overview of a recent meeting with the Thurston County Board of Commissioners which was held to foster County leadership in fire marshal functions; most specifically relating to a fire investigation program. Jim advised that there was agreement to form a policy level workgroup who will work on structuring a plan to address these issues.

In further discussion relating to county responsibilities, Bud Hover advised that he will be participating on a legislative steering committee, and if he is able to obtain talking points in support of the need for County Fire Marshals, he will begin efforts to initiate open discussion with the counties.

E-911 Committee ~ Jim Broman attended the previous meeting and reported that the Committee is currently concentrating on cellular phone technology, as it relates to identification of phone number and location. On a separate issue, there is also considerable concern about the cost and efficacy of the 9-1-1 telephone system "maintenance agreements" and the inability to either predict or control costs.

Code Change ~ Jim Broman advised that at the ICC Hearings in New York yesterday, there was a proposal brought forward that would require residential fire sprinklers in all new construction, including single family dwellings. Although the proposal did not receive the necessary 2/3 approval for passage, efforts will continue to pass this in the future. Discussion was held on possible strategies to begin building a partnership with WABO, and the need to investigate all facts prior to developing a position paper.

Decision Items ~

Motion: It was moved by Jim Broman and seconded by Rick Chaney to approve establishing February 1 as the deadline for submitting NFIRS data to the Office of the State Fire Marshal, and to approve establishing April 1 as the target publication and distribution date of the annual Fire in Washington Report.

Motion passes. Unanimous

Motion: It was moved by Jim Broman and seconded by Jennifer Gregerson to approve the revision of the Washington State Fire Service Resource Mobilization Plan.

Motion passes. Unanimous

Motion: It was moved by Sharon Colby and seconded by Bud Hover to approve the Fire Protection Policy Board's 2006 Annual Report, as presented in concept.

Discussion: It was agreed that other photos may be better suited to portray all of the Board's responsibilities. It was agreed that any one who had digital photos should email them to Ellen or Jennifer, and Jennifer could use her own discretion on selecting the photos. It was also agreed that Jennifer would continue working on the details of the report.

Motion passes. Unanimous

All Risk Mobilization ~ Mike advised that the issue of All Risk Mobilization has been passed to the Governor's Office, who is working with Chief Batiste and the Fire Service to craft a resolution to the issue.

Election of Officers ~

Motion: It was moved by Bud Hover and seconded by Jim Broman to retain T.J. Nedrow as the Board Chair, and Dean Hosni as the Vice-Chair.

Discussion on the Motion – Sharon Colby voiced a concern regarding the necessity of having the Chair and/or Vice-Chair available to attend the full meetings and work Sessions of the Board as scheduled. TJ assured the Board that he and Dean would coordinate their schedules to ensure that one or the other of them would be available to attend the entire meetings and work sessions as scheduled.

Motion passes. Unanimous

Funding of Basic Firefighter Training Program ~ In discussion regarding a recent request from the Fire Service Leadership Forum (Forum) for the Fire Protection Policy Board to develop a position paper describing how resources can be allocated to produce well-trained, basic firefighters throughout the state, especially in small, rural areas of the state, Wayne Wienholz questioned if the Policy Board should limit their consideration to just basic firefighter training, or if all elements of fire service personnel training (to include fire prevention training) should be considered. Following discussion on this issue, TJ convened a work group consisting of Sharon, Rick, TJ, Wayne, Jim and Mark to address discuss and strategize on this issue. T.J. advised that he will send out an email to the Workgroup to determine a meeting date.

Firefighter I Certification / College Credits ~ Mike advised that the Certificates of Completion, issued by the Fire Training Academy will contain a notation of the number of hours of instruction completed. He pointed out that it will be necessary to make the community colleges aware of the Certificates of Completion. Chief Hendershot advised that credit for alternative learning experience is also available and explained that college credits can be earned for hours of firefighter training attended. Mike advised that he will contact Pat Ward at the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges to discuss the best method of advising the colleges, and will report back at the July Work Session.

Website ~ Chief Van Camp and Mike Matlick provided a handout and overview of a proposed budget for the development and maintenance of a web site that would be designed as a one-stop site for training information in the state, and could serve as a central repository for training records. Chief Van Camp explained that the advantage of this type of a website would ensure inter-coordination and streamlined training programs. It was recommended that the website be managed by 1-.5 FTEs (to be hired by the WSP) versus utilizing contractors. It was agreed that it is critical to maintain current data on the website.

Salem Tour ~ T.J. reminded the Board that the date selected for the tour of the Oregon Joint Law Enforcement/Fire Training Academy and overview of their programs and how they manage their Regional Delivery System has been scheduled for June 28. Preliminary plans are for the bus to depart from the GA Building in Olympia at approximately 7:00 a.m., and return by 5:00 p.m.

August 22 Meeting/Barbeque ~ T.J. advised that Wayne has confirmed that he will be providing a barbeque lunch at the August 22 Work Session, which previous Policy Board members will be invited to. T.J. will contact the represented associations seeking contact information for past board members to facilitate inviting them to the meeting.

Two – Year Plan ~ T.J. advised that he will discuss this issue in further detail at a future meeting, and requested that Board members ponder what they see as a need for the Board to address in the meantime.

Review ~ Ellen will make updates to the Pending List as discussed. There were no changes or additions made to the Schedule of Events.

Agenda Items for Next Meeting:

Meeting adjourned at approximately 11:45 a.m.

Next Meeting:

July 25, 2007 – Work Session
General Administration Building
Olympia, WA

Approved:

T.J. Nedrow, FPPB Chair (Date)